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LAND USE MAPPING AND MODELLING FOR THE PHOENIX QUADRANGLE

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Type I Progress Report for Period 1 September to 31 October 1972

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Type I Progress Report
ERTS-1
1 September 1972 - 31 October 1972

a. Land Use Mapping and Modelling for the Phoenix Quadrangle. (ERTS-A Proposal SR-186)

b. IN-057

c. Statement and explanation of any impedance:

Positive transparencies of color infrared composites were an absolute necessity before the investigation could be conducted effectively.

This requirement was stated in the original proposal. Once the

black and white transparencies of MSS bands 4, 5, and 6 arrived

around October 1, much time was spent in trying to prepare color com-

posite transparencies from them. We can use an I²S Color Additive

Viewer for several hours each week. Copies of color transparencies

are being ordered retroactively from NASA Goddard by Special order

form. No MSS Band 7 images have yet been received. No cloud-free

sets (MSS 4, 5, and 6) have yet been received showing most of the

Phoenix (Arizona) Quadrangle test site in one view, although partial

sets have been received.

d. Accomplishments during the reporting period and those planned for the next period:

Complete coverage for the Phoenix Quadrangle has been obtained in

MSS bands 5 and 6, and in some place band 4 as well. Investigation

has commenced using an I²S Color Additive Viewer when available and

other magnifying equipment at other times. A map of changes in land

use has been compiled for the entire quadrangle using ERTS images as

the only source information. No aircraft photos were consulted. During the next two months, the black and white 9 x 9" transparencies will be tested on other image enhancing equipment, e.g., color or density slicing. If a color infrared composite can be obtained as a hard copy transparency, additional experimentation will be formed with this. If MSS band 7 or any RBV bands or 70 mm ERTS images of any kind can be obtained, these to will be tested as aids to mapping changes in land use. In general, the MSS bands 4, 5, and 6 in color composite have been satisfactory for descriminating cropland from either rangeland or urbanized areas in Arizona. In the expanding urban fringe of Phoenix, this is a significant accomplishment. Aircraft photographs will eventually be used to check the accuracy of the interpretations from ERTS imagery.

e. Scientific results and practical applications:

Experimentation with 70mm squares cut from ERTS 9.5 inch MSS positive transparencies (bands 4, 5, and 6) in an I²S color additive viewer, A Richardson Film Production Viewer at 10 X Magnification and in microfische viewers at 12X and 18X magnification has indicated that band 5 photography provides the most useful interpretable data. In the I²S viewer high intensities of blue and red light in bands 4 and 6 respectively enhance faint vegetation patterns not easily detectable. Slides produced from 35mm color transparencies made by photographing the I²S viewing screen are suitable visual aids for use during presentation. Interpretation of MSS transparencies allowed compilation of a map of land use change in the Phoenix Quadrangle. (Category 2H, Land Use Survey and Mapping, General)

f. Published reports or talks::

NONE

g. Recommendations for improvement:

It would be advantageous to send out all four bands of ERTS MSS to those principal investigators requiring color infrared composites for their work. Although the 9 X 9" transparencies definitely are useful, some distribution of the 70mm images might help also in allowing a broad overview in the Color Additive Viewers.

